

National Night Out

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eau Claire's 12th Annual National Night Out on Crime Community Celebration to kick off the Night will take place Tuesday, August 1st at Owen Park, First Avenue, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Free admission and food for the whole family: inflatable games and Dunk the Crook dunk tank, additional games and music (by Bow Tie Productions). There will be a drawing for 3 bikes with helmets, 2 Boom Boxes, 2 Border's \$25.00 gift certificates, and more. All family members are invited to meet McGruff. McGruff invites children to bring an unopened box of dog biscuits to donate to the E. C. Humane Association.. The Sheriff's Hummer will be at the park plus displays of police, fire and medical services. There will be free child ID kits that include DNA collection and fingerprinting.

Chief of Police Jerry Matysik will provide a welcome at 6:30 p.m. in the Band Shell. Additional special crime prevention guests have been invited. A skit by E. C. Parks & Recreation will entertain people of all ages. From 7 to 10 p.m. residents in neighborhoods throughout Eau Claire and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police.

National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Department, Marshfield Clinic, Rock N Roll to Go, Big Brothers Big Sisters, YMCA and area grocers, restaurants and retailers. NNO will involve over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. In all, over 33 million people are expected to participate in "America's Night Out Against Crime" on August 1st. NNO 2006 is also supported in part by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, "This is a night for America to stand together to promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity. NNO showcases the vital importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. On August 1st, we invite neighborhoods nationwide to join us in giving Crime & Drugs A Going Away Party."

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